Message

From: Mutter, Andrew [mutter.andrew@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/9/2017 10:02:00 PM
To: Smidinger, Betsy [Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov]; Stavnes, Sandra [Stavnes.Sandra@epa.gov]
CC: Faulk, Libby [Faulk.Libby@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Notes from Sen Daines call with Sophie Miller

Flag: Follow up

Great summary from Jody below.

Best regards,

Andrew

Andrew Mutter

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From: Ostendorf, Jody
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 3:19 PM
To: Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>
Subject: Notes from Sen Daines call with Sophie Miller

FYSA: Our next call is Monday, March 13, 2017 from 12-1.

Agenda

- Introductions, Sophie Miller, covering Superfund issues; Robert Moler, 1 ½ years with EPA; local site team. Nikia Green, RPM for Butte, Silver Bow Creek site, Berkley Pit, Silver Bow; Anaconda smelter site 300 square miles; Joe Vranka Superfund Unit Supervisor;
- Overview of Superfund in Montana – Remediate, Restoration, Reuse; arsenic from smelting ore 100-150 years ago. All part of Clark Fork River Basin sites. Everything begins in Butte. Flood in 1908 took a lot of the waste from Silver Bow Butte (75 square miles) and Montana Pole sites and washed them 120 miles downstream. Collected in the Milltown dam reservoir sediment and Clark Fork River and Milltown reservoir sediment site. There are 17 NPL sites, operable units by media, water, soil or geographic area. Burlington Northern Livingston site (railyard and fueling station, has been under State Superfund programs, looking to get it removed from consideration for NPL) and Smurfit stone site, PRPs are conducting investigation at the site currently. Investigation is nature and extent of contamination, all historical info, sampling and analysis plans, evaluate soil, gw, surface water, sediment, air. Look at all places that contamination could come to be. Also collect info to do a human health and environmental risk analysis. Could it get into GW and contaminate wells, rivers, fish, other ecological receptors. Look at potential to get into human food chain as well. Remedial investigation. Also eval actual and potential risks posed by that contamination. Then, we do a feasibility study, evaluate alternatives using 9 criteria for cleanup: thresholds, pub health and env, federal, state, local, public health and env. Laws, cost effectiveness, state and public acceptance; focused on anticipated future use, target cleanup efforts to community needs/use

and future desired use of the property. Promote re-use and redevelopment. From feasibility, we come up with a preferred alternative, issue a public proposed plan, take comment, have public meetings; then make a decision of how to clean up/remedy the site, and issue a record of decision. Includes a responsiveness survey that responds to public comments. If no viable PRPs, EPA works with the State to design and implement the cleanup. If we have PRPs, we enter a CD to let them do the cleanup, or we order them to do the cleanup. Or we do the cleanup and then try cost recovery. EPA doesn't go after property owners who bought claims to build a cabin, because they're not responsible for the contamination. RPM for every site, and State project managers.

- SBCBA site overview; Berkeley Pit; environmental justice; Butte Site is first site, very complex. Butte mine flooding (Berkley Pit) and Rocker Butte priority soils unit; ROD on Berkley Pit, issued in 1994. Placer mining, then underground, then open pit mining, which caused the Berkley Pit. 10,000 miles of underground mining. 1992 they stopped pumping, they should have named the critical water level the safe water level. That level is calculated, such that as long as we keep the GW below that level, the pit will be consistently a tub/pit, a controlled gw part of the remedy. The gw is part of the bedrock of the aquifer and alluvial aquifer. Oxidization of the ore body causes acidic mine water with lots of heavy metals. Over time the oxygen levels decrease and the ore bodies return to their natural state. Acid mine drainage, goes into the pit, maintain the pit below the critical water level.
- Sophie: If you could change the ROD, how would you change it? Joe, not sure there are any new technologies; If there were cheaper, better ways to treat water. Lime treatment is still the best treatment, neutralizes the acidity/ph to make the metals precipitate out of the water. Atlantic Richfield has looked at new technologies, spent $50 million looking at new technologies. Joe gets 2 ideas a week from all over the world for better ways to clean water; EPA is innovative.
- Environmental Justice definition. Butte has a large low-income population that is a priority engagement for EPA in the remedy site. Residential remedy abatement program; go to every resident and offer testing of their yard and inside dust. If contamination poses a risk for human health, the program will remediate; EJ is integrated into the remedy, to protect everyone. Challenge is to reach everyone in the area. Web sites are not always available for low-income people. Work with community groups, Restore our Creek Coalition. A big push for accessibility. Citizens for Labor and EJ group, developing brochures and strategic plan; Would like to invite the senator and his staff to meetings with stakeholders. Robert Moler will send out a call in # for next Monday's call on March 13.
- Q&As
- Next steps: regular briefings, site engagement opportunities; Butte, Anaconda,
- **Other? Please send additional agenda items in advance of our Tuesday meeting**

Would the second Monday of the month work for regular calls? From noon to one, next Monday is first one. Yes, that works. Robert will schedule it.

Thank you!

Jody

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